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## BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of

DONALD F. STONEFELD, M.D.

Holder of License No. 14712
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
In the State of Arizona

Case No. MD-06-0443A

CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR LETTER OF REPRIMAND

## CONSENT AGREEMENT

By mutual agreement and understanding, between the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") and Donald F. Stonefeld, M.D. ("Respondent"), the parties agreed to the following disposition of this matter.

- Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement").
   Respondent acknowledges that he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.
- 2. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Consent Agreement in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Consent Agreement.
- This Consent Agreement is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.
- 4. The Board may adopt this Consent Agreement of any part thereof. This Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against Respondent.
- 5. This Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver,

express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding. The acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision or officer of this State from instituting other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.

- 6. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.
- 7. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the acceptance of the Consent Agreement. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.
- 8. If the Board does not adopt this Consent Agreement, Respondent will not assert as a defense that the Board's consideration of this Consent Agreement constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other similar defense.
- 9. This Consent Agreement, once approved and signed, is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to the Arizona Medical Board's website.
- 10. If any part of the Consent Agreement is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

11. Any violation of this Consent Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter") and 32-1451.

DONALD F. STONEFELD, M.D.

DATED: 3.13.07

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- Respondent is the holder of license number 14712 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- The Board initiated case number MD-06-0443A after receiving notification that Respondent received disciplinary action against his license from the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board.
- 4. On May 23, 2002, Respondent saw a patient for a psychiatric consultation and diagnosed her with Bipolar disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Obsessive/Compulsive Disorder and Personality Disorder, not otherwise specified. Respondent reviewed and made adjustments to the patient's medications and asked her to return for medical management.
- 5. Following the patient's psychiatric consultation, Respondent contacted her to tell her he wanted to see her socially. Respondent told the patient that in order for them to see each other she could no longer be his patient. Reportedly, the patient informed Respondent she wanted to see him socially and Respondent told her they would discuss it at her next appointment.
- 6. At the following appointment, Respondent documented in the patient's medical record that she was bright and oriented, she had no delusions or hallucinations and she had decided not to pursue counseling at that time and that she would not be returning to him. This notation from Respondent in the patient's medical record was in contrast to his diagnosis on May 23, 2002. Respondent provided the patient with a three month supply of medication and instructed her to follow up on the medication with her primary care physician. Respondent asked the patient if they could get together in six days

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and she agreed to do so. The patient did not meet with Respondent socially, even though Respondent did attempt to contact her once after her final appointment.

On March 15, 2006, the Wisconsin Board entered a Final Decision and Order ("Order") against Respondent for a reprimand. The Order is incorporated by reference.

# CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.
- 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401 (27)(o) ("[a]ction that is taken against a doctor of medicine by another licensing or regulatory jurisdiction due to that doctor's mental or physical inability to engage safely in the practice of medicine, the doctor's medical incompetence for unprofessional conduct as defined by that jurisdiction and that corresponds directly or indirectly to an act of unprofessional conduct prescribed by this paragraph. The action may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license by that jurisdiction or a surrendering of a license to that jurisdiction, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee by that jurisdiction or placing a licensee on probation by that jurisdiction.") and A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(q) ("[a]ny conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.").

# ORDER

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand for an action taken by another board supported by evidence of a boundary violation with one patient.
  - 2. This Order is the final disposition of case number MD-06-0443A.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this

gth day of fuene, 2007.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By

**Executive Director** 

ORIGINAL of the foregoing med this 2007 with:

Arizona Medical Board 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258

EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed this that day of 2007 to:

Donald F. Stonefeld, M.D. Address of Record

(SEAL)

Investigational Review